



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

249
3/15/02
#6

In re application of

Nobuharu SHIINA

Appln. No. 09/942,992

Confirmation No.: 9285

Examiner: Unknown

Filed: August 31, 2001

For: RUBBER COMPOSITION AND HEAVY DUTY PNEUMATIC TIRE USING THE
RUBBER COMPOSITION

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

U.S. Patent No. 5,726,237, issued March 10, 1998;

U.S. Patent No. 5,463,003, issued October 31, 1995;

European Patent No. EP 0 909 788 A1; published April 21, 1999; and

European Patent Office - Patent Abstract of Japan, Publication No. 2000211313,
published August 2, 2000 (Application No. 11013551, Application Date January 21, 1999).

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith, along with a copy of the corresponding European Search Report.

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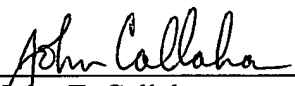
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
U.S. Appl. No. 09/942,992

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date for an application other than a continued prosecution application (CPA) under §1.53(d); (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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